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Chinese Thought. An Exposition of the Main Characteristic Features of the Chinese World-Conception. By Dr. Paul Carus. Being a continuation of the author's essay "Chinese Philosophy." iii and 195 pp., many Illustrations, and Index. The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago, 1907. (Price, \$1.00.)

In this suggestive and philosophical work, Dr. Carus supplies material for a psychological appreciation of the Chinese. He sketches the most characteristic ideas that dominate Chinese thought and inspire Chinese morality. He begins with the study of the earliest modes of thought—communication among primitive folk in different parts of the world and traces the growth of the present system of Chinese caligraphy. Oriental, mystical ideas are explained, as well as the popular methods of divination by means of trigrams and the geomancer's compass. A special chapter is given to the zodiacs of the different nations, which are compared with the Chinese zodiacs and the possibility of a common Babylonian origin is suggested. This chapter is illustrated with many rare engravings representing almost all known zodiacs from those of Egypt to those of the natives of the Western world. The influence of Confucius is discussed and a concise recapitulation of the leading facts in Chinese history is given, together with a review of the long novel which takes the place of a national epic. The volume concludes with the consideration of Chinese characteristics and social conditions, the influence of Christian missions, and the introduction of Western commercialism.

Chinese Life and Customs. By Paul Carus. vi and 114 pp., Numerous Illustrations by Chinese Artists. The Open Court Publishing Company, Chicago, 1907. (Price, 75 cents.)

This is a unique book. In preparing it Dr. Carus has made the Chinese characterize themselves by word and picture. The volume presents no Western idea of the Chinese: it gives the Chinese view of phases of their life, illustrated by Chinese pictures. The text explaining the pictures is confined to quotations from Chinese literature.

It was a happy thought to tap such sources of information concerning life in China. The idea was suggested to Dr. Carus by a book printed in Japanese, treating of Chinese life and customs under the present Manchu dynasty and published in Tokio. He has selected from that book the illustrations that are of special interest. They are simply outline drawings after the fashion of Chinese art, but they are thoroughly characteristic of the people whom they are meant to portray. The book is divided into chapters on "Annual Festivals," "Industries and Foreign Relations," "Confucianism and Ancestor Worship," "Taoism and Buddhism," "Childhood and Education," "Betrothal and Marriage," "Social Customs and Travels," "Sickness and Death."

The Story of Paris. By Thomas Okey. With Illustrations by Katherine Kimball. xv-448 Ill., 64. Map of walls, Plan of Paris. J. M. Dent & Co., London, 1906. (Price, \$1.50.)

To compass within one small volume the office of historian and cicerone is the difficult task undertaken by our author. Inevitably he is handicapped from the start by the magnitude of the subject. The story of Paris is the history of France, and a guide to the city must be one for several cities united into one.

The success of the attempt can only be partial, and a high-minded writer can but feel that he is sacrificing his art to the convenience of the public.

To condense a hundred interesting facts into one clear, sparkling paragraph is the gift of but few and this author is not one of the elect. But that he is painstaking and accurate there can be no doubt. He has "torn the heart out" of numerous historic documents, but as literature his history is dry and as history it is inconclusive. We feel as if we were grasping at premises which just elude us. That the author feels this vagueness himself is shown by his frequent reference to special authorities.

There are certain chapters, however, which are thoroughly satisfactory: as, for instance, those entitled "Art and Learning," and "The Massacre of St. Bartholomew." But on the whole, it seems hardly fair to criticise censoriously as literature a work which so well performs its function as guide. While raised by its scholarship far above the plane of the ordinary guide book, nothing is omitted that conduces to its value as a trustworthy aid to viewing Paris, old and new. The old streets and historic locations are pointed out, and the ancient edifices described, any curious or interesting event connected with either being recounted.

In addition, the chapters are clearly headed, the index is exhaustive, and the illustrations, whether as prints of old structures, or as reproduced photographs of famous pictures, are beautiful.

By virtue of its workmanship this volume can be recommended as well to those who would know Paris, as to those who already know and love her.

H. P. L.

Les lacs des Hauts Plateaux de l'Amérique du Sud, par Le Dr. M. Neveu-Lemaire, Professeur agrégé à la Faculté de Médecine de Lyon, avec la collaboration de MM. A. Bavay, E. A. Birge, E. Chevreux, G. Marsh, J. Pellegrin, et J. Thoulet.
H. Le Soudier, Paris, 1906.

The French Scientific Commission that was sent to Bolivia in 1903 is publishing little by little the results of its labours in various branches of investigation. The present volume is devoted specially to the hydrography of the Bolivian elevated tableland, which extends between the Coast-Cordillera on the west and the Andes or Royal-Cordillera on the east, Southeastern Peru on the north and the mountains about Potosi and Cochabamba on the south. Very little of Peru is embraced within that area, and it would have been more precise, on the part of the author, to have indicated in his title: "The high plateau of Bolivia" instead of "The high plateaux of South America" in general. The title is, so far, misleading.

The expedition landed on the Chilian coast May 18th, starting thence for the interior, and left Bolivia about the middle of August, arriving at Bordeaux October 30th. Thus the commission consummated its labours on Bolivian soil in not quite three months; rather a short time, but well employed, and during which period the Government of Bolivia (especially the Minister of Colonies and Immigration, Don Manuel Vicente Ballivian) and the authorities of the different railroad-lines in operation and in construction afforded every desirable facility. For the exploration of Lake Titicaca one of the lake-steamers was placed at their exclusive disposal.

It is well known that the principal hydrographic features are two lakes, situated at an altitude of over 12,000 feet and for which no common outlet has been yet discovered. Subterranean outlets have been repeatedly supposed, but